

CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for canceling echoes over a communications channel, said apparatus comprising:
means for implementing, at the start of a communications session over a
5 communications line, a plurality of echo cancellors to cancel echo on said
communications line, said echo cancellors each operating to cancel echoes that
arrive during a predetermined bandwidth of time, said predetermined band-widths
of time being non-overlapping;
means for training each of said plurality of echo cancellors to produce a
10 cancellation signal that cancels echoes arriving during the predetermined
bandwidth of time associated with said echo cancellor; and
means for eliminating, after a predetermined training period, all echo cancellors that
produce a cancellation signal below a predetermined threshold.

2. Apparatus of claim 1 wherein said band-widths of time are equal in width to each
15 other.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said non-overlapping band-widths are each
approximately 16 milliseconds apart.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a graphical user interface for allowing
a user to alter the predetermined threshold.

20 5. A method of canceling echoes in a telecommunications system comprising the
steps of:
establishing a plurality of non-overlapping echo canceling filters;

training each of said non-overlapping echo canceling filters such that each produces a canceling signal within a predetermined time bandwidth; eliminating all of said echo cancellors with the exception of those that produce a canceling signal above a predetermined threshold.

5 6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of adjusting said predetermined threshold based upon results produced by said method of claim 5.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein each of said non-overlapping filters occupies a time width of approximately 16 milliseconds.